REMARKS

Entry of this amendment and reconsideration and allowance of this application, as amended, are respectfully requested.

New claims 12-14 depend from and further limit claim 9, amended herein. Claims 1-14 are now in the application.

Claims 1 and 2 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Okada (US 2001/0028785 A1). This ground of rejection is respectfully traversed.

In addition to the arguments presented in our previous response, claims 1 and 2 are now amended to recite that each of the plurality of recording devices directly records data from outside of the device. Further, the "recording objective determination means" determines specific recording devices which should record the data input from the outside among "a plurality of recording devices".

The added claim limitations are supported in the specification at Page 11 lines 9-20 and at page 15, lines 5-13 and by Figure 4.

Claim 10 stands rejected under on 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Okada (US 2001/0028785 A1). This ground of rejection is also respectfully traversed. Claim 10 has been amended to include the same features added to claims 1 and 2.

Claims 9 and 11 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Okada (US 2001/0028785 A1) in view of Lee (US 6,839,499). Claim 9 has been amended to include "control means for performing such control that said date is recorded in the fixed type recording medium of said recording device using the fixed type recording medium..." This feature is not taught by either of the references.

Claims 9 and 11 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Okada (US 2001/0028785 A1) in view of Yuminie et al (US 5,528,746) and further in view of Lee (US 6,839,499). This ground of rejection is respectfully traversed. In view of the

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amendments to claim 9 (and therefore also incorporated into dependent claim 11) these claims are believed to patentably define over this combination of references.

In view of the above remarks, Applicant submits each of the above rejections is overcome. Withdrawal of each is thus respectfully requested.

Applicant respectfully submits this Amendment and the above remarks obviate the outstanding objections and rejections in this case, thereby placing the application in condition for immediate allowance. Allowance of this application is earnestly solicited.

If any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17 are due in connection with this filing, please charge the fees to Deposit Account No. 02-4300; Order No. 033216.073.

If an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 is necessary that is not accounted for in the papers filed herewith, such an extension is requested. The extension fee should be charged to Deposit Account No. 02-4300; Order No. 033216.073.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: March 15, 2006